

SERMONS IN QUAIN TEXTS

Text: While men slept, his enemy came.—Matthew 13:25.

That is always the time when the enemy comes, when we are off our guard. Satan is very shrewd and cunning. He knows just when and where the proper time is to do mischief. We are always in greatest danger when we feel safest. The enemy sowed the tares while the owner slept. It was lawful for the man to sleep, in fact it was necessary. What then shall we do to protect ourselves in these unguarded moments? The only thing we can do is to commit ourselves into the hands of him who never sleeps, Jesus our Savior. If Satan never sleeps, neither does our God.

Behold he that keepeth Israel
Shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is thy keeper.

God is the same now as he was then, and if we commit our all to him he has promised to keep us. We should ever be on the lookout for these enemies who are continually sowing tares on the soil of the human heart. Especially do the young people need to be on their guard. It is on the young and tender heart that satan tries to scatter his evil seed, for that is his most fruitful soil, and it is there that he expects to reap the greatest harvest. In this he is right. He well knows that if he can succeed in sowing on the soil of the heart in all its freshness and impressiveness, he is sure to reap a rich harvest. Let the young be careful, and not allow satan to scatter his tares on their innocent hearts. When young people take up vile books and papers they should remember that it is satan scattering his evil seed on the soil of their hearts and in due time there will be a harvest. Close your hearts and ears and eyes against everything that is impure and vile, whether thoughts, words or deeds.

Text: Take heed unto yourselves.—Acts 20:28.

This is very good advice. It was given by the apostle Paul, and should be heeded by all who are in danger of being overtaken by the evil one. The counsel was given to the elders at Ephesus, but it is just as good for others as it was for them. A Christian business man once said to his partner: "I have concluded that there is one man here who needs watching." Who is that, asked his partner. "Myself," he said. That was well said. That is the person each one of us has to watch. The most dangerous enemy we have we carry about with us in our own bosom. His name is *self*. Let us get rid of him, for unless we destroy him he will destroy us. Christ will not stay in the heart where *self* dwells. The two are opposed to each other. They can no more dwell together than fire and water can. We need to take heed to our own hearts, to our personal habits, to our companions and friends. The very first duty is, "Take heed unto yourselves."

Text: The sailors were seeking to flee out of the ship.—Acts 27:30.

In doing this they were endeavoring to flee

from duty and responsibility. It is just what a great many people are doing every day, running away from the post of duty. The ship was about to be wrecked, and those sailors were needed on board the ship. There was their place because there was something to do for them. In the church of God there is work for each one, so there is in the home, in the community, in the state, in the nation. No one should run away from duty because there is a cross to bear. Home life may be hard, but to leave it would be disloyalty to Christ. It may not be pleasant to watch by the bedside of the sick and the dying, but when our duty is there then we should be found at that place. There is such a thing as running away from duty and responsibility, but no one can run away from God. Though we take wings and flee to the uttermost parts of the earth, God is there also. Living or dying, the manly thing to do is to stay by our duty and do it nobly, leaving the results with God.

Church News

Morrison's Cove, Pa.

This has been the busiest year of my life, so busy that I have neglected to report some very important matters and interesting news.

Brother Wise was with us this fall and did some good preaching. Our communion passed off very pleasantly and membership was well represented, considering the inclement weather.

Brother S. L. Buck informed us that the church had given us a unanimous call to serve them for the fifth pastoral year beginning April 1, 1898. No definite or permanent arrangements have been made at this writing; we leave it with the Lord and his people.

The EVANGELIST is excellent and very much appreciated on this charge. While we haven't been able to secure many new subscribers, the old ones still hang on. A few years ago we secured some new subscribers who never paid their subscription, which has greatly discouraged us in that direction and possibly makes us a little over cautious.

Liberty church is getting along nicely. A few dollars to raise and she is free from debt, and that will mean much to pastor and the church at large. The devil gave us a hard tussle there but the church is on top. "Praise ye the Lord."

EUG. H. SMITH.

Gleanings From the Wayside

We come again with a grateful heart to him that rules and reigns in the destiny of all things, for his goodness in sparing our life until now. Since we were "gleaned from the wayside," we have not been able to do very much preaching. We managed to fill our appointments over Sundays, but as yet are not able to go into our revival work. My work was somewhat disarranged by my getting hurt, but hope all will work out for good. Our work is moving. At our last meeting at Salem one was received by rela-

tion, and the congregation was moved with a deep spiritual manifestation. At Maple Grove, last Sunday, we had another addition by relation which makes two since our last report. While we are not able to hold revival meetings at present, it is our privilege to attend meeting here at home. Brother Fox is conducting meeting; will continue over Sunday.

WM. W. SUMMERS.

North Manchester, Ind.

Ashland University

We report the receipt of \$100.00 from the Salem congregation, per Willis Polk and Nannie Moore, Committee, Burlington, Ind. From the New Enterprise congregation, per G. W. Rensch, \$12.50. From the Roann congregation, per J. M. Lowman, Roann, Ind., \$100.00. From the Zanesville congregation, Indiana, per G. W. Rensch, \$43.00. From Edna Mills, per John Bricker, Ross-ville, Ind., \$16.00. From the Eaton congregation, per Albert W. Evans, Eaton, Ind., \$91.00. Indiana is paying up in good shape. Now we hope to receive remittances from other delinquent districts during the coming week, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia, Kanemorado and California.

Please do not delay these remittances, as the time agreed upon for settlement with the attorney representing the creditors is on the 1st day of January, and as we have been getting extensions of time, we will be unable to secure more than possibly a few weeks more grace in which to make the adjustment.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN KEIM,
Sec. A. U. F. Com.

Arritts, Va.

Dear Evangelist:—The Lord be praised, he still blesses us. Our love feast was on Thanksgiving eve, after which we continued nightly services for ten days. Five were received into fellowship, three by baptism and two by relation. Our work is much hindered by the lack of means and the lack of ministerial workers. With the exception of our esteemed brother D. C. Moomaw, your servant, the writer, is the only Brethren minister that ever preached in this (Alleghany) and Craig counties. The harvest is great. The cry comes from neighboring communities, "come and help us," "Come and preach for us," but often the opportunity is lacking. We believe the Lord is opening the way. This simple hearted people are longing for a simple gospel. More than three score have received it during the past two years and the horizon is brighter than ere before. Brethren, pray that an effectual door may be opened. Our time at present is chiefly occupied in teaching in the public schools, but we hope to give several months to revival work in the spring. We ask the prayers of all God's children in behalf of this promising field, as yet almost without workers.

Our communion was held at Cross Roads in Craig Co., Nov. 13, when one was added by baptism. This appointment is twenty